IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SERIAL NO.:

FILED:

Herewith

TITLE: PRODUCTION OF TETRABASIC LEAD SULFATE FROM SOLID STATE REACTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF ACTIVE PLATES TO BE USED IN LEAD-ACID BATTERIES

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A solid state reaction method for the production of tetrabasic lead sulfate by reacting 4PbO and PbSO₄, comprising the steps of:

(a) mixing the a stoichiometric mixture of 4PbO and PbSO₄₅;

(b) heating the stoichiometric mixture of 4PbO and PbSO₄ at a temperature between 500 and 700°C during for 3 to 8 hours: and

(c) deagglomerating and sieving the resulting tetrabasic lead sulfate.

2. (Currently amended) A solid state reaction method for the production of tetrabasic lead sulfate by reacting 3PbO·PbSO₄·H₂O + PbO, comprising the steps of:

(a) mixing the a stoichiometric mixture of 3PbO·PbSO₄·H₂O + PbO-;

(b) heating the stoichiometric mixture of 3PbO·PbSO₄·H₂O + PbO at a temperature between 500 and 700°C during for 3 to 8 hours: and

(c) deagglomerating and sieving the resulting tetrabasic lead sulfate.

- 3. (Currently amended) A solid state reaction method according to claim 2, wherein said mixture of 3PbO·PbSO₄·H₂O + PbO is obtained from active materials coming from the pastes used for the preparation of the lead-acid battery plates, or coming from recycled lead-acid battery plates.
- 4. (Currently amended) A solid state reaction method for the production of tetrabasic lead sulfate by reacting 5PbO + H₂SO₄, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) mixing the <u>a</u> stoichiometric mixture of 5PbO + $H_2SO_{4\overline{5}2}$
- (b) heating the stoichiometric mixture of 5PbO + H_2SO_4 at a temperature between 500 and 700°C during for 3 to 8 hours-: and
 - (c) deagglomerating and sieving the resulting tetrabasic lead sulfate.
- 5. (Currently amended) A solid state reaction method for the production of tetrabasic lead sulfate by reacting $4PbO + PbCO_3 + H_2SO_4$, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) mixing the <u>a</u> stoichiometric mixture of 4PbO + PbCO₃ + H_2SO_4 ;
- (b) heating the stoichiometric mixture of 4PbO + PbCO₃ + H₂SO₄ at a temperature between 500 and 700°C during for 3 to 8 hours: and
 - (c) deagglomerating and sieving the resulting tetrabasic lead sulfate.
- 6. (Currently amended) A solid state reaction method for the production of tetrabasic lead sulfate by reacting 5PbO + $(NH_4)_2SO_4$, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) mixing the stoichiometric mixture of 5PbO + $(NH_4)_2SO_{47}$

(b) heating the stoichiometric mixture of 5PbO + $(NH_4)_2SO_4$ at a temperature between 500 and 700°C during for 3 to 8 hours: and

(c) deagglomerating and sieving the resulting tetrabasic lead sulfate.

- 7. (Currently amended) A lead-acid battery paste made with comprised of the tetrabasic lead sulfate obtained according to the method of claim 1, the production of lead-acid battery plates being made with said paste, and the production of lead-acid batteries being subsequently made with them: the plates.
- 8. (Currently amended) A lead-acid battery paste made with comprised of the tetrabasic lead sulfate obtained according to the method of claim 2, the production of lead-acid battery plates being made with said paste, and the production of lead-acid batteries being subsequently made with them the plates.
- 9. (Currently amended) A lead-acid battery paste made with comprised of the tetrabasic lead sulfate obtained according to the method of claim 3, the production of lead-acid battery plates being made with said paste, and the production of lead-acid batteries being subsequently made with them the plates.
- 10. (Currently amended) A lead-acid battery paste made with comprised of the tetrabasic lead sulfate obtained according to the method of claim 4, the production of lead-acid battery plates being

made with said paste, and the production of lead-acid batteries being subsequently made with them the plates.

- 11. (Currently amended) A lead-acid battery paste made with comprised of the tetrabasic lead sulfate obtained according to the method of claim 5, the production of lead-acid battery plates being made with said paste, and the production of lead-acid batteries being subsequently made with them the plates.
- 12. (Currently amended) A lead-acid battery paste made with comprised of the tetrabasic lead sulfate obtained according to the method of claim 6, the production of lead-acid battery plates being made with said paste, and the production of lead-acid batteries being subsequently made with them the plates.